

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03625 211533Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 IGA-02
EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /068 W
-----211536Z 045828 /50

O R 211507Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0124
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, TU, GR, US
SUBJECT: REACTION TO REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT WILL RECOMMEND
RESUMPTION OF AID TO TURKEY

1. THE ATHENS NEWS MEDIA REACTED WITH ALARM AND SOME ANGER
APRIL 21 TO INITIAL U.S. PRESS REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER
HAS DECIDED TO ASK CONGRESS TO LIFT THE EMBARGO ON
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN AS YET NO FORMAL EDITORIAL COMMENT,
THE TENOR OF THE LOCAL HEADLINES AND ARTICLES IS THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION HAS DECIDED TO EASE THE BAN ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE
IN AN EFFORT TO OVERCOME TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE ON
CYPRUS, THE AEGEAN AND U.S. MILITARY OPERATIONS IN TURKEY.
A FEW NEWSPAPERS CHARGE, HOWEVER, THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS
RETURNED TO THE POLICIES OF SECRETARY KISSINGER. LIBERAL,
PRO-GOVERNMENT KATHIMERINI, FOR EXAMPLE, HEADLINED, "CARTER
PROMOTES KISSINGER POLICY ON AID TO TURKEY."

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3. SEVERAL DAILIES NOTED THAT STRONG RESISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT'S
REPORTED RECOMMENDATION IS ANTICIPATED FROM GREEK AMERICAN
GROUPS AND CONGRESSMEN WHO HAD OPPOSED MILITARY AID TO TURKEY
DURING THE FORD ADMINISTRATION. CONSERVATIVE ESTIA, FOR ONE,
HEADLINED "CARTER LIFTS BAN ON AID TO TURKEY" AND COMMENTED IN
ITS STORY THAT "THE HONEYMOON BETWEEN THE GREEK AMERICANS
AND PRESIDENT CARTER IS OVER." NEWS BROADCASTS THIS AFTERNOON

(APRIL 21) CARRIED A TAPED REPORT FROM NEW YORK TO THE EFFECT THAT SEVERAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSMEN KNOWN TO OPPOSE ANY MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST EASING THE RESTRICTIONS.

4. COMMUNIST RIZOSPASTIS HEADLINED "CARTER REQUESTS QUICK DCA WITH TURKEY AND GREECE--TO PLACE SUBJECT BEFORE CARAMANLIS IN LONDON." THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE COMMENTED THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS ATTEMPTING TO PRESSURE GREECE INTO ACCEPTANCE OF A DCA BY SUPPORTING THE TURKISH DCA ALREADY BEFORE CONGRESS.

5. AS YET THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL REACTION FROM GOVERNMENT OR OPPOSITION SPOKESMEN.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: ARMS EMBARGO, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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